

Date: Wed, 6 Jan 93 08:06:10 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #27  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Wed, 6 Jan 93                      Volume 93 : Issue    27

## Today's Topics:

(none)  
1200Mhz is not a microwave band!  
[Re:] Microwave Ovens as Transmitters  
[Re:] Sony SWL Receiver  
Aluminum tubing in Bay Area  
Converting 49Mhz Toys to 6 meters  
Corrections to previous ft530 posting  
CQ rtty experts...  
Distinct Checks  
IC-2SRA Mods needed  
Info-Hams Digest V93 #23  
Origin of "88's" and "73's" ? (2 msgs)  
sub  
SUBSCRIBE info-hams  
Vertical Antennas - feedback on R7,GAP,BUTTERNUT (2 msgs)  
Yaesu FT530 HT first impressions

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available (by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 6 Jan 93 14:32:05 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: (none)  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Just wanted to advise the group of my experience with Periphex, makers of replacement batteries for amateur radios. Last year I purchased one of their batteries, the 12 volt version for my Kenwood 215 HT. Recently one of the plastic ears broke off. It had a bubble in it and was apparently weakened. I called Periphex customer support and was told there was nothing they could do about it. They do not provide a replacement case for the battery, and all I could do is purchase another.

Needless to say, I will never purchase another and recommend the same to you.

Bob Hambuchen  
N50MW

-----  
Date: 6 Jan 93 11:18:08 GMT  
From: flop.ENGR.ORST.EDU!gaia.ucs.orst.edu!umn.edu!uum1!kksys.com!edgar!brainiac!  
moron!chrisc@RUTGERS.EDU  
Subject: 1200Mhz is not a microwave band!  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

taylor@tix.timeplex.COM (Seth Taylor) writes:  
> Since so called "microwave ovens" operate in the UHF designation  
> frequency range why don't we call them a "UHF" ? Think about that

Probably because they use conventional microwave techniques; e.g.  
magnetron

>  
> Seth T. KC2WE

--  
73 Chris Cox W0/G4JEC  
chrisc@biggus.g4jec.tcman.ampr.org      chrisc@biggus.moron.vware.mn.org  
Eleventh Hour Contest Group - North American Chapter; Minneapolis, MN  
Twin Cities Metro Area Network node (biggus.g4jec.tcman.ampr.org)

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Date: 6 Jan 93 13:03:24 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: [Re:] Microwave Ovens as Transmitters  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Regarding the conjecture about using microwave ovens, or their components, as 2400 MHz ham transmitters:

It seems to me that Chip Angle, N6CA, did this some years ago. Apparently injection-locked the magnetron to get usable stability. I suppose that

Chip also used a good DC supply. Contact Chip for more info. He sometimes runs ads as "Angle Linear".

73, Bob W30TC

-----  
Date: 6 Jan 93 13:09:17 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: [Re:] Sony SWL Receiver  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Thanks to the posters who pointed out how behind I was about this unit. I feared such a response, but posted anyway to elicit comments. Considering the complaints about BFO instability in earlier Sony SWL gear, I'm surprised they didn't get it right in this one.  
73, Bob W30TC

-----  
Date: 6 Jan 93 14:28:32 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Aluminum tubing in Bay Area  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Be careful about electrical aluminum conduit. Aluminum conduit so called "trade size", e.g. 1" is actually 1.31" nominal o.d. and is physically similar to schedule 40 iron pipe. The diameter designations of "pipe" sizes are i.d, not o.d. . Also, since aluminum conduit is used for electrical applications, it bends more readily than "tubing" and is almost never seamless which contributes to its less than desirable physical strength per pound of material. Stick with seamless tubing for max. strength, esp. when using aluminum (or any other tubing) for an antenna boom. In the electrical trade, I don't know of any "tubing" sizes that exist made of aluminum. So called "Intermediate" metal conduit, if available in aluminum would still have a larger o.d. than its size designation. It would probably bend like a champ (after all that's what electricians do with this conduit stuff anyway). In summary, i would stick to tubing.

KC2WE Seth T.

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Date: Tue, 05 Jan 93 17:40:15 CST  
From: sdd.hp.com!saimiri.primate.wisc.edu!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!wupost!spool.mu.edu!umn.edu!uum1!kksys.com!edgar!brainiac!moron!pillock!

stevej@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Converting 49Mhz Toys to 6 meters  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

dave@eram.esi.COM.AU (Dave Horsfall) writes:

> In article <Tk1uwB2w164w@pillock.moron.vware.mn.org>,  
>     stevej@pillock.moron.vware.mn.org (Steven Jarosh, KA0VYB) writes:  
>  
> | > No wonder Tandy (RS) have a reputation here for over-priced junk...  
> |  
> | Tandy can't take all the blame. Don't forget about Australia's user  
> | unfriendly Customs Ministry for those of us not associated with the  
> | Commonwealth.  
>  
> Perhaps, but that does not detract from the popular view that Tandy (Aus)  
> sell over-priced junk... I am always amused at their resistors, packed  
> in individual blister packs, for about 20 cents each...

Here in the US they are 29 cents(US) for two.

>  
> Evidently the Tandy in Australia is nothing like the Radio Shack in USA.  
>

Possibly, but the popularity or tolerance of RS in the USA is due to the fact that you can find those resistors no matter what part of the country you are in. With 8500 outlets in the US, you can find a RS in some very rural settings. Our labor(labour) ;- ) prices being what they are in the US means either fix it yourself or trash it and buy a new one.

Steve KA0VYB

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Date: Wed, 06 Jan 1993 14:39:23 GMT  
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!paladin.american.edu!gatech!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!neoucom.edu!wtm@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Corrections to previous ft530 posting  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The speaker microphone is really neat. You'll like it. The Cleveland AES store had them in stock a few weeks ago; don't know about now. The 530 in general seems to be pretty hard to find. It is nice to have the S&P0 display, freq, etc all there on the mic. Nice backlighting too.

--

Bill Mayhew           NEOUCOM Computer Services Department

Rootstown, OH 44272-9995 USA phone: 216-325-2511  
wtm@uhura.neoucom.edu (140.220.1.1) 146.580: N8WED

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Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 12:47:51 GMT  
From: swrinde!gatech!emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: CQ rtty experts...  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jan5.110308.1@kean.ucs.mun.ca> jcraig@kean.ucs.mun.ca writes:

>  
>  
> I built a RTTY demod and wrote a simple prog to read the  
>serial port so I could copy RTTY on my PC. Unfortunately, most  
>RTTY is baudot (5 bit) and not the 8 bit ACII which I can copy.  
> If anyone has a source code ( C or BASIC) or algorithm or  
>even a few ideas on how to copy baudot with a PC using a simple demod,  
>I'd be very grateful if I could procure same.

Use two lookup tables for the conversion with a table switch on detecting  
the shift character. It's only 128 bytes and a state variable, a fairly  
trivial program for a single chip micro.

Gary

--  
Gary Coffman KE4ZV | You make it, | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary  
Destructive Testing Systems | we break it. | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary  
534 Shannon Way | Guaranteed! | emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary  
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | emory!ke4zv!gary@gatech.edu

-----  
Date: 6 Jan 93 15:04:35 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Distinct Checks  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>Checks in the Mail (in Calif) to come up with a series of picture  
>checks for the ham radio hobby?

Wow, neat idea. I wonder if the national leadership (HQ ARRL)  
would be willing to look into that.

-----  
Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 14:03:02 GMT

From: sdd.hp.com!cs.utexas.edu!qt.cs.utexas.edu!yale.edu!ira.uka.de!  
sol.ctr.columbia.edu!usenet.ucs.indiana.edu!silver.ucs.indiana.edu!  
foxd@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: IC-2SRA Mods needed  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am looking for mods for the ICOM IC-2SRA. Does anybody have any?

```
*****
*           Daniel B. Fox           *           All men are mortal.           *
*           KF9ET                   *           Aristotle is a man.           *
*   FOXD@SILVER.UCS.INDIANA.EDU     *   Therefore: All men are Aristotle. *
*****
* My opinions are my own.   Mine you hear me!!!   MINE!!! MINE!!! MINE!!!! *
*****
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-----  
Date: 6 Jan 93 15:24:42 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #23  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

q

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Date: 6 Jan 93 12:34:01 GMT  
From: dtix!oasys!kstuart@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Origin of "88's" and "73's" ?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In rec.radio.amateur.misc, tcline@hplvec.LVLD.HP.COM (Ted Cline) writes:  
>Speaking of the meaning of "72":  
>  
>> And George\_Noyes said:  
>>  
>> I believe it is just a "low power version" of 73's. (If I recall 72  
>> 88's were part of a larger list of messages at one time, no longer  
>> used.)  
>  
>I'm interested in these \_old\_ number codes.  
>----> Were there others, now no longer used?  
>

Well, I know that the old wire transmission services used to use the  
number "30" to signify the end of each message. This was sent using  
the old "true" Morse. The sender would belt it out as:

di-di-di-dah-dit (3) daaaahhhh (long dash, or 0)

SOUND FAMILIAR???

Yep, this is the origin of the "SK" or "VA" sent today. Actually, we are mimicking a landline Morse transmission of "30".

73. Ken Stuart, W3VWN

-----  
Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 13:05:56 GMT  
From: usc!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!pacific.mps.ohio-state.edu!linac!att!cbnews!  
cbnewsj!k2ph@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Origin of "88's" and "73's" ?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I can't stand it! There is no "s" on the end of either 88 or 73. 88 means "love and kisses" while 73 means "best regards." Neither one of them could possibly possess anything!

There, I feel better now. :-)

--  
-----  
Bob Schreibmaier K2PH | UUCP: ...!att!mtdcr!k2ph  
AT&T Bell Laboratories | Internet: k2ph@mtdcr.att.com  
Middletown, N.J. 07748 | ICBM: 40o21'N, 74o8'W  
-----

Date: 6 Jan 93 14:24:24 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: sub  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

subscribe Nigel Watkinson

-----  
Date: 6 Jan 93 14:58:37 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: SUBSCRIBE info-hams  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SUBSCRIBE info-hams

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Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 13:13:08 GMT  
From: infonode!ingr!b30news!afsp.b30.ingr.com!boyd@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Vertical Antennas - feedback on R7,GAP,BUTTERNUT  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jan5.180757.19294@jetsun.weitek.COM>, johnm@jetsun.weitek.COM (John Mcleod) writes:

>Path: b30news!ingr!infonode!uunet!paladin.american.edu!gatech!emory!swrinde!  
elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!ames!agate!stanford.edu!apple!veritas!amdcad!weitek!johnm  
>From: johnm@jetsun.weitek.COM (John Mcleod)  
>Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.misc  
>Subject: Vertical Antennas - feedback on R7,GAP,BUTTERNUT  
>Date: 5 Jan 93 18:07:57 GMT  
>Organization: WEITEK Corporation  
>Lines: 8  
>  
>The subject says it. I am considering a mulit-band vertical. I would  
>prefer to use a 1/2 wave which does not need ground radials (I have  
>a bad leaf problem on the roof, radials would make this worse).  
>Any feedback on the GAP Eagle-VI ? this seems to have no ground radials  
>apart from 8ft 'counterpoises' somewhat like the R7, and is some \$100  
>cheaper. Thanks for any responses...  
>  
>John N6RCD.

Has anyone tried or heard any reports (good or bad) on the new MFJ multi-band vertical??

Stan KC4ZGF

-----  
Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 14:39:05 GMT  
From: swrinde!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!malgudi.oar.net!news.ysu.edu!do-not-reply-to-path@network.UCSD.EDU  
Subject: Vertical Antennas - feedback on R7,GAP,BUTTERNUT  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I have the Gap (about 1 1/2 Yrs now). Put it together and up in about 1 hour. The only hard part was digging the trench to bury the wires. I have had great success with it in contests and DXing. It does everything it claims (it isn't a beam or a Quad.. but on ocassions can beat one out). There are serveral of us around this town that have them and all love them.



73s de Cookeville,TN

Jeff, AC4HF

--

Jeff M. Gold, AC4HF

Manager, Academic Computing Support

Tennessee Technological University

-----  
Date: Wed, 06 Jan 1993 14:35:29 GMT

From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!neoucom.edu!  
wtm@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Yaesu FT530 HT first impressions

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I called Yaesu to get some info in the 530. The number is 310-404-27400. There is a voicemail system that gets you to technical support rather easilty. Ask for Winston when you get tech support; he's very helpful. Winston faxed me the expanded receive for the 530 and the 5100. The 530 is pretty easy to open up for expanded recieve. There are two jumper pads in a goup of 12 on the lower right in the back of the unit that need to be unsoldered. With a small low watt iron, it is very easy. Turn the unit back on while holding the arrow keys and you've got up to 500 MHz. While undocumented, I found that the unit would take direct keyboard entries in the 880-900 MHz band. Sensitivity is quite good. -- I don't advocate use in the high range; that's up to you if you want to listen to that stuff.

My only objection is that the 530 really gets intermoded awfully by UHF pagers. There is a nearby pager system on 454.100 MHz that pounds across the entire 430-450 MHz band. Ouch! My Icon 24AT and my buddy's W2 don't get hit by that pager. Sticking with the stubby duck that comes with the unit helps avoid intermod on 70 cm, but a better antenna is needed for 2m xmit. I guess you trade intermod susceptibility for having such a hot reciever front end. I'd like to be able to use something like a Larsen dual band duck so I don't have to switch antennas every time I want to use a different band.

The ergonomics of the 530 are fantastic. If something could be done to get rid of the 70 cm intermod, I'd buy one today.

--

Bill Mayhew        NEOUCOM Computer Services Department  
Rootstown, OH 44272-9995    USA    phone: 216-325-2511

wtm@uhura.neoucom.edu (140.220.1.1) 146.580: N8WED

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Date: 6 Jan 93 13:37:04 GMT  
From: panix!dannyb@nyu.arpa  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <01GT47Y1CA0G8WVYPA@TSU.BITNET>, <1993Jan5.223707.2911@telesoft.com>,  
<POPOVICH.93Jan5211354@morningside.cs.columbia.edu>  
Subject : Re: NASA Project Dante; why fiber cable?

In <POPOVICH.93Jan5211354@morningside.cs.columbia.edu> popovich@cs.columbia.edu  
(Steve Popovich) writes:

<lots of good stuff deleted>

>The radio was not used was due to a combination of factors, primarily  
>driving us was time, the amount of information, the amount of  
>available power on the Dante, the fact that we were not line  
>of sight and the desire to only put computers on Dante that we were  
>used to programming (again the time factor) and could withstand -40C.

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

hmm, -40C. I wonder what that is in F?? <g>

danny (brrrr, is it really summertime in antarctica?) burstein

dannyb@panix.com

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Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 13:56:28 GMT  
From: pipex!bnr.co.uk!bnrgate!corpgate!brtph560!brtph87!tcain@uunet.uu.net  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1ic7vjINNjg9@rave.larc.nasa.gov>, <rrgd50-050193130047@222.5.80.3>,  
<16B4DE52A.WEBBG@wsuvm1.csc.wsu.edu>p  
Subject : Re: 1200Mhz is not a microwave band!

In article <16B4DE52A.WEBBG@wsuvm1.csc.wsu.edu> WEBBG@wsuvm1.csc.wsu.edu writes:

>In article <rrgd50-050193130047@222.5.80.3>  
>rrgd50@email.sps.mot.com (Chris Terwilliger) writes:

>

>>

>>by the way...has anyone ever used tried to modulate old oven parts???

>>Seems like a good project for someone with an oven they don't use any

>>more...

>>

>  
>I've thought about doing this. Anyone know what this would involve?  
>  
There was an article on this in 73 a couple years ago.

--  
Tom Cain WB80UE tcairn@bnr.ca  
disclaimer: i don't speak for nobody!

-----  
Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 13:02:06 GMT  
From: swrinde!gatech!emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1ic7vjINNjg9@rave.larc.nasa.gov>, <rrgd50-050193130047@222.5.80.3>,  
<1993Jan05.220530.19633@eng.umd.edu>  
Reply-To : gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman)  
Subject : Re: 1200Mhz is not a microwave band!

In article <1993Jan05.220530.19633@eng.umd.edu> chuck@eng.umd.edu (Chuck Harris -  
WA3UQV) writes:

>In article <rrgd50-050193130047@222.5.80.3> rrgd50@email.sps.mot.com (Chris  
Terwilliger) writes:

>>by the way...has anyone ever used tried to modulate old oven parts???

>>Seems like a good project for someone with an oven they don't use any

>>more...

>

>Magnetrons are seriously noisy in both frequency and in amplitude. The power

>supplies in the ovens are typically 1/2 wave rectified and unfiltered.

>About all that magnetrons are good for is heating and high power pulse

>emissions such as radar.

There was an article in 73 a year or so ago about converting a microwave  
oven to a FM ATV transmitter. The guy used injection locking to keep the  
magnetron on channel, and better power supply filtering. Note that the  
current limiting inherent in the original power supply is important. It  
protects the magnetron in case of a flashover.

Gary

--  
Gary Coffman KE4ZV | You make it, | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary  
Destructive Testing Systems | we break it. | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary  
534 Shannon Way | Guaranteed! | emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary  
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | | emory!ke4zv!gary@gatech.edu

Date: Wed, 6 Jan 1993 13:33:14 GMT  
From: swrinde!gatech!emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <9301041923.AA01850@mwunix.mitre.org>,  
<1993Jan5.152228.17121@ke4zv.uucp>, <\_a92f-+@rpi.edu>  
Reply-To : gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman)  
Subject : Re: Yeasu FT-470 mods?

In article <\_a92f-+@rpi.edu> abelson@rpi.edu writes:  
>In article <1993Jan5.152228.17121@ke4zv.uucp>, gary@ke4zv.uucp (Gary Coffman)  
writes:  
>|> That's because it's \*perfect\* as it comes out of the box. :-)  
>|> The only worthwhile mods I know of are to the abysmal drop in  
>|> charger....  
>  
>  
>Gary, I've been trying to keep myself as complete a list of mods for the 470  
>as I can, but do not recall ever seeing the drop-in charger mod you mention.  
>Would you be so kind as to post it here? I am assuming it if for the NC-29  
>(that's what I currently have).

The "mod" is simple, unplug it and hook shot it into the nearest  
circular file. :-) Seriously, this battery eater is not worth keeping,  
get the NC-42 and shave the ridge that keeps 470 batteries out of it  
off with an Exacto knife or a Dremel tool. The 42 is a pulse charger  
with terminal charge sensing by the voltage droop method. It won't  
hurt a partially charged battery like the 29 will, and it won't start  
\*another\* 5 hour charge cycle if the power bumps in the night.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				emory!ke4zv!gary@gatech.edu

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #27  
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